

Message Text

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14

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DOTE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 IO-10 /079 W

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R 082344Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8782

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 6068

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, MX

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJETCS: TEHUANTEPEC ELECTRIC RR CANAL

REF: MEX AIR 542, 12/19/74

1. ACCORDING TO VARIOUS MEXICAN DAILIES, INCLUDING EL SOL, NOVEDADES AND EL HERALDO, PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA, IN HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH GOP LEADER TORRIJOS WHILE IN CHIAPAS, DECLARED THAT MEXICO WAS STUDYING THE POSSIBILITY OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF A HIGH SPEED DOUBLE RAILROAD ACROSS THE ISTHMUS OF TEHUANTEPEC BETWEEN COATZACOALCOS AND SALINAS CRUZ, A SITE WHICH WOULD REPORTEDLY FAVOR THE EXCHANGE OF CARGO BETWEEN THE PACIFIC OCEAN AND THE GULF OF MEXICO (REFAIR). ECHEVERRIA WAS FURTHER QUOTED AS COMMENTING THAT MEXICO WOULD PROVIDE BROAD ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN THIS ENDEAVOR TO PROVIDE A MODERN ALTERNATIVE TO THE PANAMA CANAL AND THAT THE RAILWAY WOULD BE SUBJECT TO COMPLETE MEXICAN JURISDICTION.

2. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN ON BACK BURNER FOR LONG TIME. HOWEVER, WE HAVE RECENTLY RECEIVED INDICATIONS THAT FOREIGN SUPPLIERS ARE ACTIVELY BIDDING ON THIS PROJECT WHICH MAY BE APPROACHING REALITY FASTER THAN WE HAD ANTICIPATED. IN THIS RESPECT, PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S REMARKS MAY POSSIBLY

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BE ADDITIONAL INDICATIONS OF ACTIVE GOM INTEREST.

3. IBRD MAY HAVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AS WE UNDER-
STAND THEY WERE TO HAVE SENT A MISSION TO THE ISTHMUS
WITHIN LAST FEW MONTHS.

4. ARA/MEX PLEASE PASS ED PARSONS IN WASHINGTON ON
TDY.
JOVA

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: CONSTRUCTION, RAILROADS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
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Draft Date: 08 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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